

No: 14-026

April 2, 2014

CONTACT: Maureen Conley, 301-415-8200

NRC Issues License to Powertech for Dewey Burdock Uranium Recovery Facility in South Dakota

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission has issued an operating license to Powertech USA for the Dewey Burdock uranium recovery facility in Fall River and Custer Counties, South Dakota.

Powertech submitted the application for the in situ recovery facility in August 2009. The license is the fourth issued by the NRC for a uranium recovery facility since 1998.

The NRC's review of the application included an environmental review published in January as a Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), which referenced the agency's Generic EIS for in situ recovery facilities.

The NRC's review also included a Safety Evaluation Report, which concluded the proposed facility can operate safely, including management of radiological and chemical hazards, groundwater protection, and eventual cleanup and decommissioning. An NRC Atomic Safety and Licensing Board will hold a hearing to examine environmental and safety contentions related to the project later this year.

The Dewey Burdock EIS, NUREG-1910 Supplement 4, Volumes 1 and 2, are available on the NRC website. The Safety Evaluation Report, the license and more information on the Dewey Burdock application are also available.